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Observations of Comets 1896 *III.* (*Swift*) *and* 1896 *IV.* (*Sperra*), *at the Radcliffe Observatory, Oxford.*

(*Communicated by E. J. Stone, Esq., M.A., F.R.S., Radcliffe Observer.*)

The following comet observations were made with the 10-inch Barclay Equatorial, using the ring micrometer, with power 100.

Comet Swift.

Date. 1896.	G.M.T. h m s	Local Sidereal Time. h m s	Observer.	Comet *minus* Star (corrected for Refraction only). R.A. m s	N.P.D. ′ ″	No. of Comps.	Apparent R.A. of Comet. h m s	Parallax in R.A. *p*. s	Log. ($p \times \Delta$).	Apparent N.P.D. of Comet. ° ′ ″	Parallax in N.P.D. *q*. ″	Log. ($q \times \Delta$).	Ref.
Apr. 20	8 57 45	10 50 28	R.	−0 16·65	−1 43·0	9	3 34 39·99	+0·68	9·593	61 46 1·8	12·1	0·840	(*a*)
28	8 44 15	11 8 28	R.	+1 29·05	+0 30·0	3	3 10 50·00	+0·79	9·6762	42 6 35·0	11·0	0·8211	(*b*)
29	9 43 35	12 11 54	C.	+1 15·50	−6 46·5	8	3 6 4·86	+0·64	9·5923	40 0 54·0	12·2	0·8739	(*c*)
May 1	10 40 18	13 16 39	W.	−3 52·73	+0 50·5	3	2 55 52·93	+0·41	9·4130	36 18 2·4	12·8	0·9082	(*d*)
1	10 40 18	13 16 39	W.	−3 58·98	+0 45·5	3	2 55 52·96	+0·41	9·4130	36 18 4·9	12·8	0·9082	(*e*)
2	10 5 49	12 46 1	R.	−1 14·39	−4 17·9	9	2 50 33·05	+0·52	9·5205	34 41 44·6	12·1	0·8912	(*f*)
4	10 44 48	13 33 0	R.	−1 50·45	+6 54·4	6	2 38 43·74	+0·29	9·2934	31 43 0·5	12·2	0·9084	(*g*)
9	10 11 45	13 19 34	R.	+0 17·80	+0 23·8	11	2 6 13·31	+0·23	9·2238	26 8 25·9	10·8	0·8952	(*h*)
11	10 37 23	13 53 9	R.	+2 53·80	−0 46·0	8	1 52 7·50	0·00	...	24 27 54·6	10·4	0·8946	(*i*)
12	9 42 52	13 2 26	R.	+0 30·88	−0 51·1	6	1 45 16·81	+0·22	9·2255	23 45 49·9	10·0	0·8868	(*j*)
14	10 53 1	14 20 40	W.	−4 3·35	−1 50·7	5	1 30 33·04	−0·26	9·3167	22 27 8·0	9·5	0·8796	(*k*)
15	11 8 46	14 40 24	W.	−3 21·89	+2 0·7	6	1 23 15·10	−0·40	9·5096	21 53 9·2	9·1	0·8675	(*l*)
29	11 32 51	15 59 45	W.	+1 34·39	−0 1·8	7	23 43 30·74	−1·10	0·0337	17 41 7·3	4·5	0·6415	(*m*)
June 15	11	...	R.	...	...	...	21 52	...	...	17 40	...	...	(*n*)

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Comet Sperra.

Date.	G.M.T.	Local Sidereal Time.	Observer.	Comet *minus* Star (corrected for Refraction only). R.A.	N.P.D.	No. of Comps.	Apparent R.A. of Comet.	Parallax in R.A. p.	Log. ($p \times \Delta$).	Apparent N.P.D. of Comet.	Parallax in N.P.D. q.	Log ($q \times \Delta$).	Ref.
1896.	h m s	h m s		m s	′ ″		h m s	s		° ′ ″	″		
Sept. 9	10 8 2	21 20 47	W.	−0 41·99	+4 59·4	3	14 9 52·48	+0·36	9·7832	34 57 (42·)	3·2	0·7261	(*o*)
15	11 54 2	23 30 44	R.	−0 11·40	+1 19·5	13	14 51 44·46	+0·29	9·6749	36 24 3·5	4·2	0·8398	(*p*)

Observers' Remarks.

(*a*) Coma nearly round, 2′ in diameter with a condensation. Very low altitude; bright moonlight and some haze.
(*b*) Coma nearly circular; can be traced over a diameter of 3′ Nucleus diffused, about 10″ or 15″ diameter.
(*d*), (*e*), (*f*) Part of the object-glass covered by roof during these observations.
(*g*) Sky hazy. At the close of the observations nearly half of the object-glass was cut off by the roof.
(*h*) Coma 3′. Condensation small. Sky very clear. (*i*) Coma 3′. Condensation generally diffused.
(*k*) Comet is a large, diffused mass. Observations are not very satisfactory. (*l*) A momentary glimpse of a nucleus obtained.
(*m*) Comet a hazy, faint patch, with apparently a tail projecting at an angle of 300° from the north point. Difficult observations.
(*n*) Comet only very occasionally discernible. No observation could be secured; nothing but the roughest estimate possible.
(*o*) The sky has been too thick for anything more than rough work. The comet is a diffused nebulous mass, though I once suspected a nucleus. (*p*) Comet is a faint haze of about 2′ diameter, with a feeble condensation; occasionally invisible.

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